

long as not a very strong case for the
opposition would be in view. I hope to do more for
this before you go to Congress. Writing very short
of you & another two pages of "news" and you
: especially & very brief" would be well. Sd. 10

Washington, Feb. 22, 1866.

Dear Wendell:

Thanks for your two letters, and the
suggestions contained in them. It is out of
the question, however, to try to persuade me
to give an off-hand lecture at Brooklyn, with
reference to matters and things in Washington -
the President's Veto, &c. So, have my theme
announced as "Liberty Victorious." Of course,
I shall say something about what I have seen
and heard here, before concluding my lec-
ture; but I wish to have no special an-
nouncement made on that point. Trust me
as to the testimony I shall give.

I have come here at a very interest-
ing and opportune period. This is a live Con-
gress, and every day is big with events of
national importance. I have heard several
very radical speeches in the Senate - one
by Senator Yates, "flat-footed" in favor of
universal [male] suffrage; another by

Senator Wade, on his proposed amendment of the Constitution, allowing no man to be re-elected to the office of President of the United States — a very bold speech in its utterance; and a third by Senator Trumbull, distinguished for logical power and vigor of treatment, pulverizing the President's Veto, and showing him to have falsified all its provisions and purposes. I have also listened to the reading of a speech by that Kentucky factionist, Garret Davis, in support of the Veto. The copperhead strength is very weak, in intellect and numbers, in both houses of Congress.

Last evening, I called with Harry at Secretary Stanton's residence, but he and his wife had gone out to spend the evening.

This forenoon I had a brief interview with General Howard, who is, of course, full of uncertainty as to what is to be the duration or power of the Bureau; but he told me that he had an interview with the President yesterday, who gave him to understand that he

should speedily announce, by proclamation, that the war has ended and peace been restored; and that the Bureau could continue until a year from that date, according to the terms of the Bill constituting the Bureau. He is not, however, to be depended on, especially as all Redaldo and Copperhead are so warmly espousing his cause. To-morrow promises to be a very lively day in the Senate, on the subject. Senator Wilson is to introduce another Bill, providing for the continuance of the Bureau two years from May next, with enlarged powers; but if it passes, the President will doubtless veto it, as in the former instance.

To-day, (22d,) Washington is all astir. The day is superb as to the weather - like an April day in Boston - and Pennsylvania Avenue is thronged by all sorts of people. An immense mass of secessionists and copperheads are holding a meeting at the Theatre, to sustain the recalcitrant President; and I understand he is to address them! I am sure the bottomless pit is equally jubilant.

I have just come, with Franky, from the Capitol, where a most fitting and eloquent eulogium has been bestowed upon the character and services of the late Henry Winter Davis by Senator Cassell of Maryland. The hall of the House was crowded in every part. The judges of the Supreme Court were present - the leading military men - dignitaries of all kinds - Senators and Representatives, &c. I got in after the oration began, and was standing back near the door, when Spencer Colfax got his eye upon me, and instantly sent a messenger to conduct me to a seat near to Secretary Stanton, Judge Chase, and other notables. After the service, I spoke to Stanton, who expressed great regret that he was not at home last evening, and said he would not be absent again if I could call. I was introduced to a large number of Senators, Representatives, and persons from various parts of the country, and warmly received.

To-morrow I am to lecture in the Union League Hall - hold four hundred - as all the others are engaged. On Sunday evening I expect to address the colored people in one of their churches.

Your ever affectionate Father.